

at Dahej in Gujarat. The gap between the demand and supply of natural gas could be met by using the regassified LNG from the proposed Dahej Terminal.

**Petitions regarding the selections made by Oil Selection Boards**

†3023. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petitions pending in each high Court in the country regarding the selections made on the basis of interviews conducted by Oil Selection Boards during the period from March 20, 1996 to April 8, 1996; and

(b) the number of petitions, S.L.Ps and appeals etc. pending in the Supreme Court regarding the selections made during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) As per available information, at present one petition and one appeal in the Calcutta high Court and one petition in the High Court of Gujarat are pending regarding selections made on the basis of interviews conducted by Oil Selection Board during the period from March 20, 1996 to April 8, 1996.

**Target fixed for issue of LPG connections**

†3024. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what target has been fixed regarding issue of new LPG connections during the current year;

(b) the number of new LPG connections issued by the various Oil Companies as on June, 2000; and

(c) what steps are being taken to increase the supply of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Government have a plan to release 1 crore LPG (domestic) connections during the Calendar year 2000.

(b) The number of LPG connections released during the period January — June, 2000 in the country was about 66 lakhs.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.